

Washington Dec 25<sup>th</sup> 1863

My dear wife:

I have just arrived  
in the city. I shall be obliged to  
stay here till Sunday evening - in  
order to get my pay. I shall be  
at Home Monday night if I  
have nothing to fall on. I am  
very tired having rode nearly 70  
miles to day. and got off my  
sick bed when I started.

I have not seen George yet  
but shall see him before  
dark. I wish you all a  
merry Christmas.

God bless you all

Your loving husband  
J. C. Putnam